

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this amendment is requested along with an early action on the merits of this application. By this amendment, original claims 1-10 and 13-17 have been cancelled. Claim 11 has been amended; therefore, claims 11 and 12 are pending in this application. It is believed that claim 11, as amended, patentably distinguishes from Mimata (US 6,070,146) and Kimata (US 5,043,561), either alone or in combination. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment is in conformance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.121.

Respectfully submitted,

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